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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/777,129	02/13/2004	Sikun Lan	CITI0286-US	3809
27510 7590 01/10/2008 KILPATRICK STOCKTON LLP 1100 Peachtree Street Suite 2800 ATLANTA, GA 30309			EXAMINER CERVETTI, DAVID GARCIA	
			ART UNIT 2136	PAPER NUMBER
			MAIL DATE 01/10/2008	DELIVERY MODE PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/777,129	Applicant(s) LAN ET AL.	
	Examiner David García Cervetti	Art Unit 2136	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 19 October 2007.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-40 is/are pending in the application.
 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-40 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 13 February 2004 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

1. Applicant's arguments filed October 19, 2007, have been fully considered.
2. Claims 1-40 are pending and have been examined.

Response to Amendment

3. The objection to claims 16 and 36 is withdrawn.
4. The rejection of claims 1, 20, and 40 under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, is withdrawn.
5. Regarding Applicant's arguments, Examiner respectfully points that Singhal (col. 1, lines 40-67) where using a password is disclosed.
6. The applicant has not traversed the examiner's use of official notice with regards to the claimed limitations found in claims 17-19 and 37-39, these features are taken by the examiner to be admitted prior art since the applicant has not adequately challenged the examiner's use of official notice (see MPEP 2144.03(c), 2144.04).

Information Disclosure Statement

7. It is noted that no Information Disclosure Statement has been filed on this application.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

8. The text of those sections of Title 35, U.S. Code not included in this action can be found in a prior Office action.
9. **Claims 1-14, 16, 20-34, 36, and 40 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Singhal (US Patent 6,938,022), and further in view of Cornelius et al. (US Patent 7,069,234, hereinafter Cornelius).**

Regarding claims 1, 20, and 40, Singhal teaches

- providing a secure response to a first party (**abstract**), comprising the steps of:
- receiving a first submission from the first party over a communications network, wherein the first submission is directed to a second party and includes an identifier associated with the first submission (**abstract**);
- receiving a response to the first submission from the second party (**col. 16, lines 50-67**);
- storing the response for later retrieval by the first party or the second party (**col. 16, lines 50-67**);
- sending a notification to the first party, wherein the notification provides information for securely accessing the response (**col. 16, lines 50-67, col. 18, lines 10-65**);
- receiving a second submission from the first party wherein the second submission comprises information for correlation to the identifier provided in the first submission (**col. 16, lines 50-67, col. 18, lines 10-65**);
- authenticating the first party; and permitting the first party to securely access the response from the second party (**col. 7, lines 1-35**).

Singhal does not expressly disclose wherein the first party is not authenticated or registered with the second party. However, Cornelius teaches wherein the first party is not authenticated or registered with the second party (**abstract, receiving from user and sending to seller**).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to provide a third party interposed between the first and second party as taught by Cornelius with the system of Singhal. One of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to perform such a modification to preserve first party's privacy (Cornelius, col. 191, lines 20-55).

Regarding claim 21, the combination of Singhal and Cornelius teaches wherein the submission by the first party is made from a client system via a communications network (**Singhal, abstract**).

Regarding claims 2 and 22, the combination of Singhal and Cornelius teaches wherein the communications network is the Internet (**Singhal, abstract**).

Regarding claims 3 and 23, the combination of Singhal and Cornelius teaches wherein the identifier is a password (**Singhal, col. 1, lines 35-67, col. 2, lines 1-51**).

Regarding claims 4 and 24, the combination of Singhal and Cornelius teaches wherein the identifier further comprises a user name (**Singhal, col. 1, lines 35-67, col. 2, lines 1-51**).

Regarding claims 5 and 25, the combination of Singhal and Cornelius teaches wherein the user name is an email address (**Singhal, col. 1, lines 35-67, col. 2, lines 1-51**).

Regarding claims 6 and 26, the combination of Singhal and Cornelius teaches wherein the first party is a user at a client system (**Singhal, col. 1, lines 35-67, col. 2, lines 1-51**).

Regarding claims 7 and 27, the combination of Singhal and Cornelius teaches wherein the user is a prospect **(Singhal, abstract)**.

Regarding claims 8 and 28, the combination of Singhal and Cornelius teaches wherein the first party pre-registered with the second party prior to the submission by the first party **(Singhal, col. 17, lines 1-40)**.

Regarding claims 9 and 29, the combination of Singhal and Cornelius teaches wherein the submission from the first party is forms-based **(Singhal, col. 17, lines 40-67)**.

Regarding claims 10 and 30, the combination of Singhal and Cornelius teaches wherein the submission from the first party contains private information about the first party **(Singhal, abstract)**.

Regarding claims 11 and 31, the combination of Singhal and Cornelius teaches wherein the submission from the first party is received through a secure system **(Singhal, abstract)**.

Regarding claims 12 and 32, the combination of Singhal and Cornelius teaches wherein the second party includes a customer service representative **(Singhal, col. 17, lines 40-67)**.

Regarding claims 13 and 33, the combination of Singhal and Cornelius teaches wherein the response to the submission contains private information about the first party **(Singhal, col. 17, lines 40-67, col. 18, lines 1-10)**.

Regarding claims 14 and 34, the combination of Singhal and Cornelius teaches wherein the notification is an unsecured email notification (**Singhal, col. 17, lines 40-67, col. 18, lines 1-10**).

Regarding claims 16 and 36, the combination of Singhal and Cornelius teaches wherein the information for securely accessing the response comprises an HTTPS link to an authentication page (**Singhal, abstract, col. 1, lines 35-67, col. 7, lines 1-35**).

10. Claims 15 and 35 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Singhal and Cornelius, and further in view of Benjamin et al. (US Patent 7,010,572, hereinafter Benjamin).

Regarding claims 15 and 35, the combination of Singhal and Cornelius does not expressly disclose wherein if the notification is bounced, the first submission is located and marked to indicate that the notification was bounced. However, Benjamin teaches wherein if the notification is bounced, the first submission is located and marked to indicate that the notification was bounced (**col. 5, lines 35-67**). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to keep track of bounced/undelivered emails. One of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to perform such a modification to provide dealing with such messages (**Benjamin, col. 2, lines 1-35**).

11. Claims 17-19 and 37-39 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Singhal and Cornelius, and further in view of Admission.

Regarding claims 17 and 37, the combination of Singhal and Cornelius does not expressly disclose recording the attempts to access the response. However, these

features have been admitted per applicant to have been conventional and well known at the time the invention was made.

Regarding claims 18, 19, 38, and 39, the combination of Singhal and Cornelius does not expressly disclose preventing access to the response after a predetermined number of failed attempts / time period. However, these features have been admitted per applicant to have been conventional and well known at the time the invention was made.

Conclusion

12. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Engberg (PGPUB 2003/0158960) teaches a third party interposed between two parties and providing anonymization, Otto (PGPUB 2001/0029496) teaches substantially the claimed subject matter.

13. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of

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the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.


14. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to David García Cervetti whose telephone number is (571)272-5861. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Tuesday and Thursday-Friday.

15. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Nasser Moazzami can be reached on (571)272-4195. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

16. Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/David García Cervetti/

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